

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE**

**VIRGINIA**

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS**

**OPEN CHANNEL**

**CODE 582**

Land Owner/Operator\_\_\_\_\_

County\_\_\_\_\_ SWCD\_\_\_\_\_ Farm/Tract No. \_\_\_\_\_

Prepared By\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS**

A properly operated and maintained open channel can be an asset to the farm. The open channel was designed and installed for safely transporting normal high and flood flows. When the open channel(s) was/were established to provide field surface drainage via main(s) or lateral(s), this plan applies only to those with a drainage area greater than 640 acres. Estimated life span of this installation is at least \_\_\_\_\_ years. The life of the open channel can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out a systematic operation and maintenance program.

This practice will require periodic maintenance and may also require operational items to maintain satisfactory performance. Your operation and maintenance program includes:

- Prompt repair or replacement of damaged components if necessary.
- Remove foreign materials and vegetation that are interfering with proper operation only when necessary. Trees that need to be controlled should be managed as early as possible.
- Maintain vigorous vegetative growth in riparian areas for erosion control, fish and wildlife habitat, and aesthetics. Repair or replace bank protection materials displaced by erosion, animals, vehicles and vandalism.
- Maintain travel-ways for access to open channel systems and associated measures for operation and maintenance..
- Maintain private security and operational facilities for pumping plants.
- Maintain grade control structures necessary for stream bottom and bank stability. Maintain stream bank protection facilities, i.e. rock jetties, bank riprap, rock barbs, log revetments, etc.
- Periodically remove cobble or sediment bars and/or woody blockages that can cause reduced capacity and damage to stream channel stability and bank protection measures. Consider fish habitat, fill and removal permit regulations, and period of the year work can be performed in the water portion of the stream.
- Maintain improvements provided for fish habitat, wildlife habitat, and riparian vegetation.

- Maintain safety measures for protection of people and animals.
- Immediately repair any vandalism, vehicle or livestock damage.

Additional Operation and Maintenance Requirements Specific to this Plan:\_\_\_\_\_

[illegible]